

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Suzannah Sunby on May 27, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Delete claim 20.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments and supportive declaration ("Martin") regarding the rejection of claims 1 and 4-9 under 35 USC 103(a) over Yan or Huang and Chotai have been fully considered and are persuasive. Applicant convincingly argues that the cited references, in particular Choati, do not teach or suggest modifying the successive digestion steps of Yan or Huang in order to provide a plurality of unmethylated fragments for further analysis.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

/CHRISTOPHER M BABIC/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1637